

Serial No.: 10/532,716  
Atty. Docket No.: P70568US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend and add claims as set forth herein:

1. (Currently Amended) An ostomy device comprising:

a body side member ~~base plate~~ with an adhesive plate for being fastened on the user, said body side member ~~base plate~~ having an opening for receiving an ostomy and a first flange manufactured from a material with a first tensile strength;

a collecting bag including a coupling element having a second flange manufactured from a material with a second tensile strength, said first flange being configured for repeated and removable adhesive connection to said coupling element;

a flexible layer bonded to ~~placed on~~ an outer surface of a one of said first and second flanges having a lower tensile strength, said bond between the outer surface of the flange having the lower tensile strength and the flexible layer being stronger than the adhesive connection between the first flange and the coupling element; and

a layer of adhesive affixed to ~~placed on~~ an outer surface of said flexible layer and having an adhesive strength to provide said adhesive connection between said first flange and said

Serial No.: 10/532,716  
Atty. Docket No.: P70568US0

coupling element, said flexible layer having a yield strength exceeding the adhesive strength of the adhesive layer.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) The ostomy device according to claim 1, wherein the yield strength of the flexible layer is in a same order of magnitude as a yield strength of the flange having a largest tensile strength.

4. (Previously Presented) The ostomy device according to claim 1, wherein a modulus of elasticity of the flexible layer is substantially larger than a modulus of elasticity of the material of the flange with the lower tensile strength.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The ostomy device according to claim 1 wherein the flexible layer includes a double-coated adhesive film.

Serial No.: 10/532,716  
Atty. Docket No.: P70568US0

7. (Currently Amended) The ostomy device according to claim 1 wherein the first flange is manufactured from an elastic material and has a tensile strength that is larger than the tensile strength of the material of the second flange, the material of the second flange including a closed foam material.

8. (Previously Presented) The ostomy device according to claim 1 wherein a modulus of elasticity of the material of the first flange exceeds a modulus of elasticity of the material of the second flange.

9. (Currently Amended) An ostomy collecting bag for use with a separate base plate adhered to the skin of a user, comprising a coupling element having a flange for removable and adhesive connection to another flange on ~~[[a]]~~ the base plate ~~for being fastened on a user, said coupling element flange being manufactured from a material with a tensile strength less than a tensile strength of material from which said base plate flange is made, a flexible layer bonded to placed on an outer surface of said coupling element flange, and an adhesive layer affixed to said adhesive connection being provided by at least one layer of an adhesive placed on said flexible layer so that said flexible layer~~

Serial No.: 10/532,716  
Atty. Docket No.: P70568US0

is sandwiched between the adhesive layer and the coupling element flange, said flexible layer having a yield strength exceeding an adhesive strength of the adhesive layer, and a strength of the bond between said flexible layer and said coupling element flange also exceeding the adhesive strength of said adhesive layer.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) The ostomy collecting bag according to claim 9, wherein a modulus of elasticity of the flexible layer is ~~substantially~~ larger than a modulus of elasticity of the material of the coupling element flange.

13. (Previously Presented) The ostomy collecting bag according to claim 9 wherein the flexible layer includes a double-coated adhesive film.

14. (Currently Amended) An ostomy device comprising:  
a base plate with an adhesive plate for being fastened on the user, said base plate having an opening for receiving an ostomy

Serial No.: 10/532,716  
Atty. Docket No.: P70568US0

and a first flange manufactured from a material with a first tensile strength;

a collecting bag including a coupling element having a second flange manufactured from a material with a second tensile strength lower than said first tensile strength, said first flange being configured for repeated and removable adhesive connection to said coupling element;

a flexible layer bonded to ~~placed on~~ an outer surface of said second flange; and

a layer of adhesive affixed to ~~placed on~~ an outer surface of said flexible layer and having an adhesive strength to provide said adhesive connection between said first flange and said coupling element, said flexible layer having a yield strength exceeding the adhesive strength of the adhesive layer.

15. (Currently Amended) The ostomy device according to claim 14, wherein a connecting strength of the bond between the flexible layer and the second flange exceeds the adhesive strength of the adhesive.

Serial No.: 10/532,716  
Atty. Docket No.: P70568US0

16. (Previously Presented) The ostomy device according to claim 14, wherein the yield strength of the flexible layer is in a same order of magnitude as a yield strength of the first flange.

17. (Previously Presented) The ostomy device according to claim 14, wherein a modulus of elasticity of the flexible layer is substantially larger than a modulus of elasticity of the material of the second flange.

18. (Previously Presented) The ostomy device according to claim 14, wherein the flexible layer includes a double-coated adhesive film.

19. (Currently Amended) The ostomy device according to claim 18, wherein the film is bonded to the second flange by welding or adhesion ~~14, wherein a modulus of elasticity of the material of the first flange exceeds a modulus of elasticity of the material of the second flange.~~

20. (New) The ostomy device according to claim 14, wherein the flexible layer is a film provided by means of a spraying or coating on the second flange and has a thickness of about 50-500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Serial No.: 10/532,716  
Atty. Docket No.: P70568US0

21. (New) The ostomy device according to claim 14 wherein the second flange includes a foam material.

22. (New) The ostomy device according to claim 14 wherein the flexible layer is a film made of at least one of polyethylene, polypropylene or polyester, and the second flange includes a foam material.

23. (New) The ostomy device according to claim 1 wherein the flange having the lower tensile strength includes a foam material and the flexible layer is a film made of at least one of polyethylene, polypropylene or polyester.

24. (New) The ostomy device according to claim 1 wherein the flexible layer includes a film which is bonded to the flange having the lower tensile strength by welding or adhesion.